



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

6<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion  
724 Postal Service Loop #9600  
Fort Richardson, Alaska 99505-9600

APVR-ENG-CO

1 June 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR All new Soldiers to the 6th Engineer Battalion (Airborne)

SUBJECT: Welcome Letter and Sponsorship Notification

1. Welcome to the 6th Engineer Battalion! Congratulations on your assignment to the Army's only composite Engineer Battalion designed to bring combat and construction effects to the battlefield. The mission of the 6th Engineer Battalion (Airborne) is to develop and employ full spectrum Engineer capabilities in support of combat operations and civil defense missions. As an Airborne Battalion our training focus is on employment of Engineer equipment and systems following an airborne insertion into remote areas of operation. Our air insertion capability is one of our greatest and most unique assets both on the battlefield and in the isolated areas of our many civil support missions throughout the United States Army Pacific Region (USARPAC). I wish to personally welcome you to the "Arctic Sappers" family and Ft. Richardson, Alaska.
2. From the moment you set foot in the Battalion, you will be part of a team focused on striving for excellence, and taking care of Soldiers & Families. The 6th Engineer Battalion is one of the Army's newest Engineer Battalions which reactivated on 09 Sept 08. The Battalion is currently comprised of five companies, Headquarters Company (Airborne), the Forward Support Company (Airborne), the 23rd Engineer Company (Sapper) (Airborne), the 84th Engineer Support Company (Airborne), the 56th Engineer Company (Vertical), and soon will be activating the 240th Engineer Team (Survey and Design) and the 525th Engineer Team (Concrete). No matter which Company or Team you may be assigned to, you are a valued member of the Full Spectrum Engineer Capabilities that this Battalion is designed to deliver.
3. During your assignment you will hear the term "Arctic Tough". Alaska can be a challenging place to live, work, and train. Every Soldier in the 6<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion will be exposed to extremes in temperature and terrain. As "Arctic Sappers" we train rigorously and realistically in preparation to deploy, fight and win! As a light Airborne Engineer your experience with the 6<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion will be unlike the experiences of your counterparts in heavy Engineer units. We move farther and faster than other Engineer units while performing the same core engineering functions. Our equipment is smaller and lighter, yet we strive to exceed the high standards of the Engineer Regiment. We will challenge you to achieve new heights of excellence, professionally and personally. This is an exciting time to be a part of the Engineer Regiment!

4. The 6th Engineer Battalion is located on Ft. Richardson east of Anchorage, Alaska. Anchorage offers the best of both worlds, outdoors (hunting, fishing, camping, skiing, etc.) and city life (shopping malls, restaurants, movie theatres, etc.). This is a fantastic area of the country with some of the best installation facilities available in the Army today. If this is your first experience in the Last Frontier, you're in for a treat! If you are returning to this area, while you already understand the beauty and wonders of Alaska, you will be surprised to see all the improvements to Ft. Richardson.

5. We want to make your transition as smooth as possible, but we need your help. Please check out the USARAK welcome page for more information at <http://www.usarak.army.mil/6eng/Default.htm>. On our website you will find a sponsorship questionnaire. Please complete the questionnaire and email it back to SFC Hannon, the Battalion S1 NCOIC, at [marc.hannon@us.army.mil](mailto:marc.hannon@us.army.mil) or 2LT Clowe, the Battalion Adjutant, at [jason.clowe@us.army.mil](mailto:jason.clowe@us.army.mil). As soon as we receive your completed paperwork we can provide you with a sponsor. We want to begin a positive exchange of information that will, hopefully, ease your mind, answer questions, and provide you with some firm expectations once you arrive.

6. Once again, the Soldiers and Families of the Battalion, CSM Dickens, and I welcome you to the Last Frontier and the 6th Engineer Battalion. We look forward to serving with you.

Clear the Line!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Marc F. Hoffmeister", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MARC F. HOFFMEISTER  
LTC, EN  
Commanding